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ABSTRACT

A method of activating bleach uses a partially acylated fructan, in particular a partially acylated inulin, having a degree of substitution with acetyl group of 0.4-2.5 and a degree of substitution of at most 0.2 with other substituents. The solubility and efficiency of these derivatives is better than that of comparable products such as completely acylated derivatives and carboxylated derivatives. The derivatives are prepared by acylation in an aqueous medium under controlled pH. Also disclosed is the fructan and a method of producing the fructan.